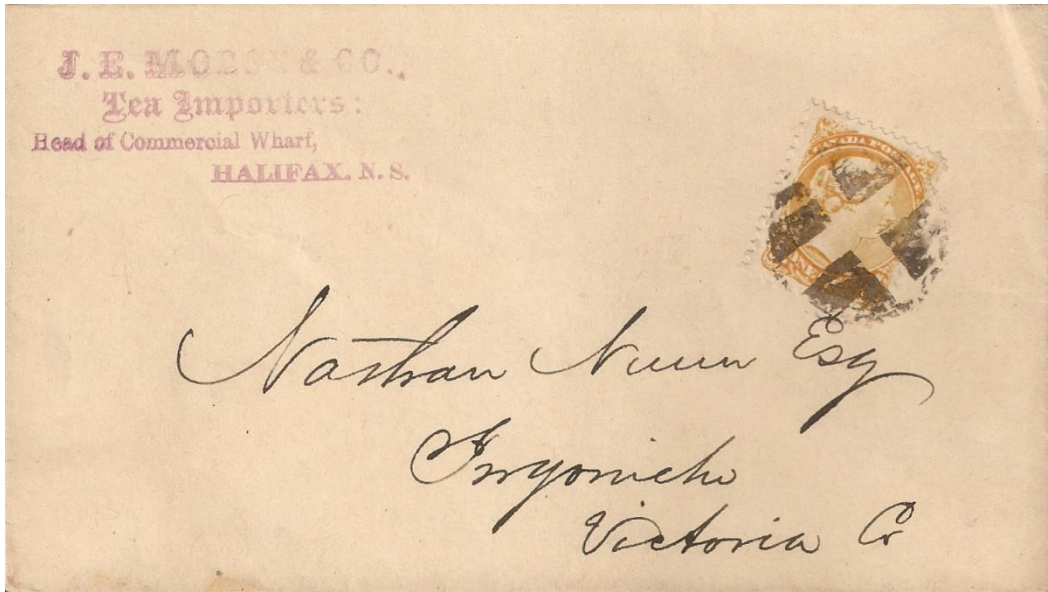


# My Favourite Cover: Morse's Tea Company Cover

Gordon Smith



This cover from February 1878 sports a 1-cent Small Queen with a lovely cork cancel.

J. E. Morse & Co. was a tea importer based in Halifax that came to be owned by my great-grandfather's brother. My grandfather worked there, my father worked there in the summers as a young man, and my uncle worked there throughout his career.

The Jerusalem Warehouse, where the tea company was located, is still an icon in downtown Halifax, NS. In the 1970s, people formed a human chain around it to prevent its demolition to make way for a waterfront highway. Later covers show different images

of the building. As a child, I visited the building in the 1960s and was fascinated by the rough stone walls, huge timber posts, and beams.

The address on the corner card, "Head of Commercial Wharf," provides no street name or other information. If people needed to find the business, they either knew where the Commercial Wharf was, or they at least knew it was on the waterfront and could go hunting for it there. Interestingly, the building is no longer associated with a wharf. The water's edge is now at least 100 meters away, with a busy street between.



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Registered *Montreal Transcript* cover, postmarked Beachville U.C SP 11 62. Beachville is 700 km west-southwest of Montreal - a very long-distance subscriber! The back-flap shows that Robert Elsie of Beachville was billed 10 shillings for his 20-month subscription and extended until May 4th, 1863. [Cover from Robert Stock's collection]

A very excellent article about these covers by David G Schurman starts on page 27.

*The only national journal dedicated to Canadian postal history.*